

# ANACONDA TIMES

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## *Anthrax vaccine at halt for Soldiers*

By Pfc. Abel Trevino  
Staff writer

Mandatory anthrax vaccinations for troops and civilians, including those stationed in Iraq, ceased immediately following a ruling on Oct. 27, by a U.S. District Court Judge.

Sgt. Carlton Lee Overton, Immunization NCO, Headquarters Support Company, 118th Medical Battalion, said the injunction was not because of medical findings, but because of technicalities resulting from the Food and Drug Administrations procedure of releasing the vaccination for usage.

Overton said this decision affects more than just the troops in theater, including Department of Defense and KBR personnel, most of whom have already received at least one or two shots in the series.

Those who have already started the six-shot Anthrax inoculation series will resume when the ban on the vaccination is lifted.

"We no longer start the [anthrax shot] series over. Whatever their last shot was, they can continue from there," Overton said.

While Soldiers have their own concerns about the shot series interruption, the medical community may be facing it's own setbacks.

"The only concern I have is that once they [resume] the shots, there will be a whole bunch of people lined up at the same time as opposed to iterations they are in now," Overton said.

If the next shot in the anthrax series is due during the pause, recipients do not have to worry about receiving their next shot late.

"You can safely receive the vaccination late, you just cannot receive them early," Overton said.

In Overton's experience, with more than 12,000 inoculations, he said that in his opinion, serious complaints over side effects with the anthrax vaccination are unfounded.

"The main complaint about the anthrax vaccination is that it stings for 10 to 15 minutes after [a person] gets it," Overton said.

"Those that did have an adverse reaction were generally on their third or fourth shot in the series, and the reactions occurred in less than five personnel."

Overton continued to say that the reactions incurred were mild reactions, including itching, swelling and slight rashes.

No other vaccinations are affected by

see ANTHRAX, page 2

## Lt. Gen. Metz speaks to Soldiers

By Sgt. Ann Venturato  
Assistant editor

Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, commanding general, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, held a town hall meeting at the Sustainer Indoor Theater Oct. 26.

Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, command sergeant major for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, spoke with the Soldiers in the audience before Metz arrived.

Gainey told Soldiers to stay focused during their deployment because the enemy is always out there waiting to capitalize on a weak spot in the defenses.

"You guys and gals that go out on the road everyday are a target of opportunity, so when you go out there, you've got to be ready. You can't just go out there driving around with just your T-shirts on and not wearing your small arms protective inserts inside your protective vest. You are just asking to be killed. The enemy knows that if they can stop you, then they can stop us," Gainey added.

Gainey told the leaders in the audience what service members have told him about

giving them the responsibility to do the job. He said to give the Soldier all the responsibility that he or she can handle, and hold them accountable for their leadership and actions.

"If you don't give them the authority to be responsible, then do it yourself," Gainey said.

Prior to speaking to the audience, Metz awarded the Purple Heart to Sgt. Gregory Sears, 744th Transportation Company, and Spc. David Mebane, 644th Transportation Company. Sears was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action on Aug. 19. Sears was working on a supply trailer when he received a shrapnel wound to his upper left thigh when a rocket hit near him.

Mebane was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in action on Aug. 21. He sustained shrapnel wounds to the right arm and lower back when the vehicle he was in was hit by an improvised explosive device.

Metz also awarded Spc. Joshua Nadeau, 744th Trans. Co., with the Army Commendation Medal with V device for see TOWNHALL, page 2



Photo by Sgt. Ann Venturato

**Lt. Gen. Thoman Metz, commanding general for Multi-National Corps-Iraq, answers questions at a town hall meeting at the Sustainer Indoor Theater Oct. 26.**



Photo by Pfc. Abel Trevino

**The 716th Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit and the 81st Brigade Combat Team test the effectiveness of five barriers from different contractors to see how they would hold up against a direct impact from a simulated 127 mm rocket Nov. 1. See page 12 to read more about the barriers.**



# Soldiers earn honors for teaching others

By Pfc. Abel Trevino  
Staff writer

The Education Awards Ceremony was held Oct. 29 at the Sustainer Theater to honor the men and women who selflessly devoted their time to assisting others in furthering their education.

On hand to present the awards was Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, Multi-National Corps-Iraq command sergeant major.

"What I saw today was a bunch of warriors that took time out to train other Soldiers to better themselves. Those are true warriors," Gainey said.

Among those honored was Staff Sgt. Marcus Glasgow, 277th Engineer Company. Glasgow has been preparing 16 students to take the English College Level Examination Program tests.

"It's been really rewarding for me," Glasgow said. "Not only do I get to help other people to, but it also solidifies [my] education too."

The instructors drew on their own knowledge, many times having to teach a

preparation classes, or CLEP class without textbooks, Maj. Kristi Hilton, education services OIC, said.

Spc. Roderick McMiller, 185th Aviation Group, passed along his knowledge in Microsoft Certification to his class of eight students.

"We're [certifying] them here," he said enthusiastically about the expanding education program he took part in. "It just feels really great that I can do something to help everybody out here."

The students have all worked toward different levels of education.

"I have one guy right now that I'm trying to help get his bachelor's [degree]," said 1st Lt. Julian Manalo, 181st Medical Battalion.

"I have several people working on their (General Equivalency Diploma)," Hilton said. "Two of the guys, they're almost 50 years old."

Gainey could not stress the importance of education enough during his speech to the audience.

"I admire what you are doing. I admire those young men and women trying to get their education," Gainey said. "You folks

coming up here on stage, you make a difference. I believe that anybody that makes a difference in one of my warriors is a hero."

Education can make the difference in a Soldier's career and life, said Chief Warrant Officer David Michael Simms, 185th Aviation Group, who is the head of the Anaconda education center's Information Technology department.

"I've always thought that smarter Soldiers fight smarter and the wars end quicker," Simms said.

The volunteers who gave their time instructing others did not see the impact their efforts made.

"A lot of [the volunteers] think they only gave a little, but they made a huge difference in peoples lives," Hilton said.

Beyond recognizing the volunteers, Hilton also stressed the importance of education to Soldiers.

"Education is something that a Soldier has control over in their life," Hilton said.

The volunteers at the education center dedicated numerous hours to assisting Soldiers fulfill the goal of continued education.



Photo by Pfc. Abel Trevino

**Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, Multi-National Corps-Iraq command sergeant major, shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Andrew Long, 4th Corps Material Management Center, 13th Corps Support Command.**

ANTHRAX from page 1  
this decision, Overton said.

Since 1998, more than 1.2 million Soldiers have received the inoculation. This injunction against the vaccination is the second since then. The first ban occurred in December 2003, for similar legal reasons, and was lifted after two weeks.

The maker of the vaccine, Biopoint of Lansing, Mich., will continue to manufacture the product.



Photo by Pfc. Abel Trevino

**Sgt. Carlton Lee Overton, Immunization NCO, Headquarters Support Company, 118th Medical Battalion, holds up a vial of the anthrax vaccination.**

TOWNHALL from page 1

his rescue and evacuation of his truck partner from the kill zone. Nadeau skillfully administered medical treatment while coordinating medical evacuation.

During his opening remarks, Metz said that every Soldier can make a difference no matter what task the service member has to do.

"Whether you are a Soldier, sailor, Marine or Airmen, it takes every piece of the Corps working underneath the big machine to get the job done," Metz said.

Metz went on to talk about how the military is helping fight the battle on terrorism in Iraq.

"I like to describe Operation Iraqi Freedom as one of the battles in the great war on terrorism," Metz said. "We can't let these thugs take us back 1,000 years. I am willing to fight them here. I am willing to kick their butts here."

Sgt. Patricia Finney, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 13th Corps Support Command, asked Metz about the likelihood of the shortening of Army deployment tours Soldiers from a year to six or nine months.

"There is a strong likelihood that deployments in OIF will get cut down. The leadership in the Army would liked to have done that some time ago," Metz said.

"The tough part of doing it right now is that the requirement in the total numbers of forces exceeds the force structure that is available to move and have enough well

time for Soldiers between rotations," Metz added.

Metz said that he thinks that as the military continues to gain control of this country and the stability, the force structure will allow Soldiers shorter deployments.

Metz let Soldiers know that deployments to Iraq won't be permanent.



Recently there have been several cases of rabies in Iraq.

Don't handle stray animals.

Remember General Order No. 1 and don't make local animals into pets. Report stray animals to the Military Police at DNVN 550-0557.

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# Army seeks stability for troops

By Sgt. 1st Class  
Tammy M. Jarrett  
*Army News Service*

WASHINGTON — The Army's top personnel officer told about 300 AUSA corporate members at the AUSA 50th Annual Meeting Oct. 25 that the Army is decisively engaged in the war on terror, but seeking to stabilize turbulence.

The goal is to have active-duty units home for at least two years before deploying again and five years for those in the Guard and Reserve, said Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, G1. However, some units are going to

deploy more rapidly at least for the next year or two, he said.

Hagenbeck said the Army has been transforming into an expeditionary Army since 9/11, where new recruits and present Soldiers are being made more readily available for deployment. Jobs once traditionally held by Soldiers are now being transitioned into the civilian sector, Hagenbeck said.

The expeditionary Army is moving the Army from the individual replacement forces, where "we changed faces repetitively day in and day out overtime," Hagenbeck said, to more stable and

cohesive units. These units will be kept together for 36 months at a time where they will train, deploy, fight and come home together, Hagenbeck said.

Even with the quick redeployment turn around, Hagenbeck said recruiting and retention efforts are doing well, bringing in 101 percent on the active side this year and aiming for 80,000 recruits for this fiscal year and 80,000 next fiscal year.

Hagenbeck said people are looking to come into the Army, but not by the traditional ways. There's the Internet, the "Army of One" Web site and much

more one-on-one contact with recruiters in the field at high schools.

Because new recruits are asking for more individual attention, an additional 1,000 recruiters have been identified "to give them that face time they demand to join our ranks,"

Hagenbeck said. Keeping Soldiers in has gone well also. Hagenbeck said they surpassed their goal of 56,000 for the active side this past year by more than 4,000.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Tammy M. Jarrett

Lt. Gen. Franklin L. Hagenbeck, Army G1, speaks to some 300 AUSA corporate members about stabilizing the Army during the 50th AUSA Annual Meeting Oct. 25.

## Too early to say if units will extend in Iraq

By Jim Garamone  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — It is too early to say if units currently deployed to Iraq may be extended in their tours of duty, Pentagon officials said Oct. 26.

In September, Army Gen. John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command, told the Senate he would need 160,000 trained forces to provide security for the January election, which will choose delegates to write the Iraqi constitution. There are now 155,000 American troops in the region.

Officials said U.S. forces remain poised to do what needs to be done.

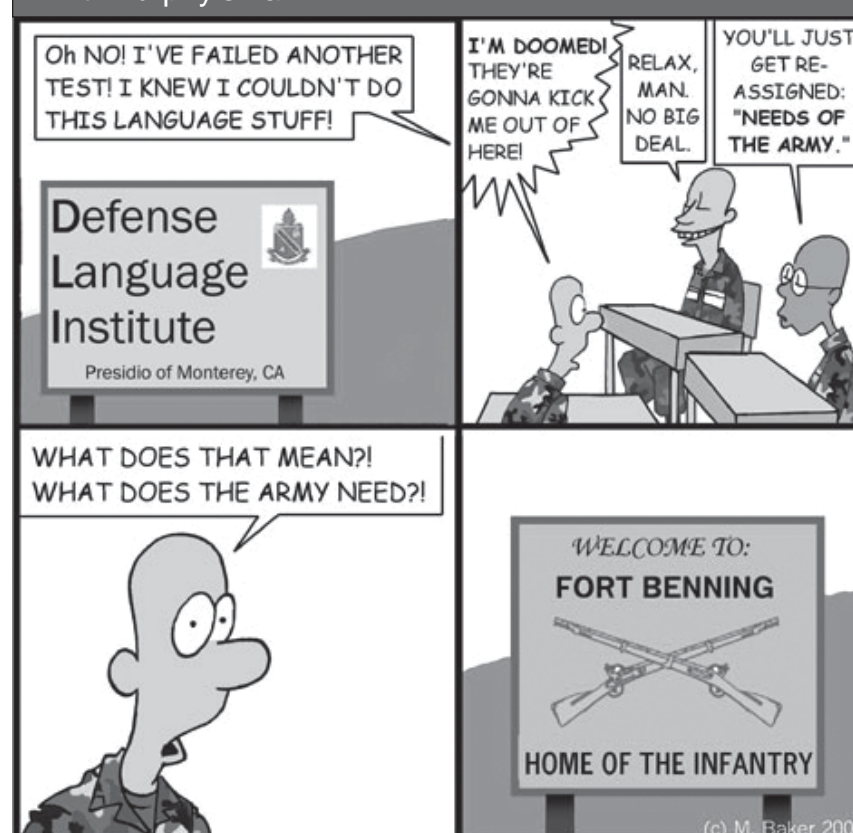
"It would be inappropriate to speculate on the process," said a Pentagon spokesman. "There is ongoing planning related to troops levels and security during the election period."

One way officials might increase forces in Iraq is to extend the tours of units in country and speed up deployment of those in the States.

Officials still hope that countries will volunteer to provide security for U.N. voting officials and other international officials who would help run the election. Multinational forces could also help protect polling places.

U.S. Central Command increased the number of American forces in the run-up to the Afghan elections Oct. 9.

### Pvt. Murphy's Law



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## Left Shoulder Diary

# 89th Military Police Brigade

Compiled from  
Unit History

The shoulder sleeve of the 89th Military Police Brigade is characterized with a disc with vertical alternating green and yellow stripes. Centered on the disc is a scarlet eight-pointed star, which surrounds a white sword pointing up surmounted by a yellow dragon's head.

Yellow and green are the colors associated with military police. The star is symbolic of courage and law enforcement. The eight points and nine stripes suggest the unit's numerical designation. The sword represents military justice, law and order. The dragon reflects authority and guardianship and the unit's origin in the Republic of Vietnam.

The unit insignia was approved on Oct. 20, 1981.

The brigade performs duties reflecting their mission by alerting, marshalling, and deploying units anywhere in the world to provide combat military police support to III Corps during war and contingency operations. Stateside responsibilities include criminal investigation, traffic enforcement and accident investigation, crime prevention, physical security, support to U.S. Customs, confinement and prisoner escort, police patrols, and military working dogs operations.

Under the 89th MP Brigade's command and control, these units provide maneuver and mobility support, area security, police intelligence and law enforcement operations in support of III Corps.

The 89th Military Police Group was activated March 15, 1966 in the Republic of Vietnam. The organization was inactivated on Dec. 21, 1971 when United States forces left Vietnam. On Sept. 13, 1972, the unit was reactivated at Fort Lewis, Wash. The unit was assigned control of operations of several military police battalions and other assigned units and detachments. Additionally, troops from the 89th MP Group staffed the Provost Marshal's Office.

On Feb. 21, 1976, the group was transferred to Fort Hood, Texas. On July 15, 1981, the unit was reorganized and redesignated as the 89th MP Bde.

Soldiers of the 89th MP Brigade have found supported operations in Honduras, Panama, Cuba, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Virgin Islands, Bosnia and Hungary. Operations include Desert Shield and Desert Storm 1990-91; disaster relief after Hurricane Hugo 1993; Operation Sea Signal in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, June-November 1994.

Members of the 89th MP Bde. are key to convoys in Iraq. At LSA Anaconda, the 178th Military Police Detachment, an element of the 89th MP Bde., supports various missions from security to staffing.

## Civilian of the Week

Clayton C. Gillyard, from Fayetteville, N.C., arrived Sept. 1 to work as the logistics management specialist at the Army Materiel Command-Logistics Support Element on LSA Anaconda. This Department of Defense civilian provides maintenance and supply expertise to the 13th Corps Support Command units here.

The east coast native is familiar with military operations and procedures.

"I was an Ordnance officer, (captain) in the U.S. Army. It was a good experience," he said. "It taught me how to lead and work with teams to accomplish the mission."

That Army experience led to more than just filling a job for him. Gillyard expressed his fondness for adventure, his affliction from what was once called wanderlust, in short the thrill of traveling and a strong impulse or longing to wander.

He was deployed from Fort Bragg, N.C. to serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom II, but hadn't been on the installation very long.

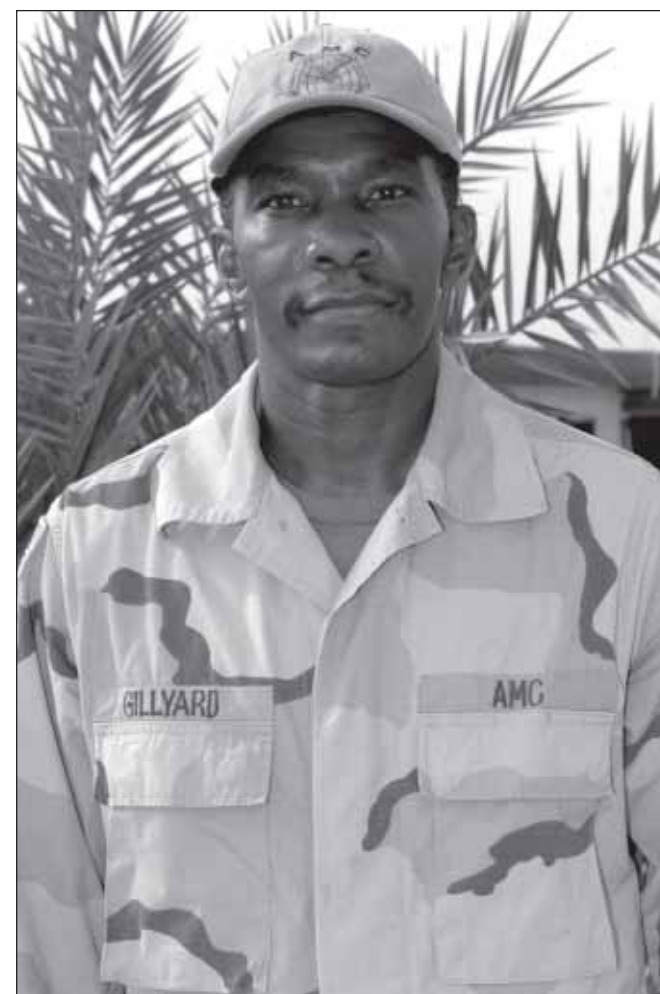
"I figure I'll stay there [on Fort Bragg] three or four years and go back to Italy or Europe after that," Gillyard uttered.

With a lifetime of worldly experiences under his belt from being in different countries and diverse situations, Gillyard finds his biggest challenge here is the environment.

"Due to the hot climate, keeping our assigned vehicles in good working condition is my most difficult task," he said.

On the other hand, getting out to visit the units stationed on LSA Anaconda and assisting in the solutions to logistical issues is a real enjoyment for Gillyard.

"I want the units to know that AMC-LSE COSCOM has the expertise to provide solutions to logistical problems in theater," he said.



Clayton C. Gillyard

As dedicated as he is to the mission and his job, there are still those moments when he thinks of home.

"I always miss my family the most during deployments," he said. "I [want] them to know that I am doing fine, and I am looking forward to seeing them soon."



Courtesy Photo

## Proud to serve

Chief Warrant Officer Lon C. Cooper receives his Bronze Star medal in a ceremony at the 13th COSCOM headquarters here Oct. 30. Cooper, the command safety officer, is returning to Fort Hood, Texas to retire after 39 years of military service. He entered the military in 1966 and fought in Vietnam. Cooper became a master army aviator and amassed 11,000 hours of flight time.



# Catfish Air helps Soldiers travel efficiently

By Spc. Steven J. Schneider  
Staff writer

Seven Soldiers of Catfish Air organize space available helicopter flights for about 6,000 people a month here.

The flights travel all around the Iraqi theater and save millions of dollars a month by maximizing the helicopter space, said Staff Sgt. Norman L. Carey, 185th Aviation Brigade, NCOIC of Catfish Air.

Organized Space A flights weren't available in March when Carey and one other Soldier started scheduling people. The service came about to maximize space on flights in theater. Eight months later, and the service has grown to where it's an essential part of operations on LSA Anaconda.

Before, those wishing to travel had to put in an Air Mission Request, which would take 48 to 72 hours to be approved, or they would have to convoy. Space A allows people to travel in about 24 hours notice.

"Without this service, we can't do business," said frequent flier, Jeff Soule, who works as what he calls a combat travel agent here.

Soule said he does about 75 percent of his traveling through Space A.

"They're good, they'll actually take care of you," he said.

The Soldiers will start training KBR employees to take over the operation in November and Carey will stay on to supervise in December. KBR will have a large job to take over, according to Carey.

"Space A has really outgrown itself,"



Photo by Spc. Steven J. Schneider

**Staff Sgt. Norman L. Carey, NCOIC of Catfish Air, helps a customer plan future space available flights. Carey is one of seven Soldiers that schedule the hundreds of space available helicopter flights that leave LSA Anaconda each month.**

Carey said.

The Soldiers have a difficult time keeping up, almost constantly taking phone calls and dealing with the steady stream of walk-in customers.

The work is hard, but the Soldiers know they help operations run smoothly and help keep people safe by keeping them off of dangerous convoys.

"The way I look at it, we're saving lives," said Spc. Joshua F. Sligh.

People who want to fly should contact Space A at least 24 hours in advance. Rank, last name, social security number, baggage details and a contact number in case the mission changes must be provided to fly. Passengers are required to wear Kevlar and

body armor on flights.

Weapons and ammo can be transported. Seats on flights are not guaranteed.

Passengers should arrive at least an hour prior and have their mission number with them.

The Space A office is open 24 hours a day and the phone number is 529-6954.

## Service members may get more money for college

By Capt. Patrick McNeace  
126th Finance Battalion

Since 2001, active duty Soldiers have had the option to contribute an additional \$600 toward the Montgomery GI Bill in order to receive increased monthly benefits once enrolled in school.

Great idea...what about Guard and Reserve Soldiers?

This benefit also applies to certain National Guard and Reserve Soldiers currently serving on active duty. There is no requirement to be currently enrolled in school to contribute. Eligibility is based on several conditions. A service member must:

- Have entered active duty after 1 July 1985
- Maintain MGIB eligibility
- Make a lump-sum payment of \$600 or have a deduction in pay of a minimum of \$20 per month for up to 30 months.

Eligible service members may contribute at any time while serving on active duty

Payment is non-refundable and does not reduce your taxable income. Once you have made your contribution and later enroll in school, you will receive up to an additional \$150 per month from the MGIB for 36 months.

This can amount up to \$5,400 extra for the initial \$600 contribution. That is a 900 percent return on your money.

The first step to begin contributing is to visit your local education center to determine your eligibility and to fill out the appropriate forms. Once the education center has reviewed your eligibility and filled out the appropriate paperwork, you may contribute by cash or check at your local Finance Office or by monthly allotment.

For more information, please contact your local education center or visit the Veteran's Administration Web site at [www.gibill.va.gov/education](http://www.gibill.va.gov/education).

## New additions to myPay

By Capt. Patrick McNeace  
126th Finance Battalion

New capabilities have been added to myPay for active duty, Reserve, and National Guard service members.

### Active Duty Only

Active duty members can now view 12 months of Leave and Earnings Statement data.

Also, active duty members are now able to start, stop and change financial allotments, effective Sept. 27.

### Active Duty, Reserve, and National Guard Service members

There is a Restricted Access Personal Identification Number, also known as RAPIN. The RAPIN allows the member to provide a spouse or trusted individual with a view-only PIN. This is a great tool for deployed members.

The member can set the RAPIN by signing into MyPay and from the main menu clicking on the Personal Settings page.

Then click on the Restricted Access PIN.

Create and input the RAPIN and provide it to your spouse or family member or trusted individual.

For the spouse or family member to use the RAPIN, they simply sign into myPay with the member's social security number under User ID and then enter the provided RAPIN.

With the RAPIN, the spouse or family member can view and print the LES and W2 but cannot make pay changes.

Don't have a myPay PIN? Go to <https://mypay.dfas.mil>. Click on Need A New PIN. Request the PIN, and a temporary PIN will be sent directly to your email account or visit your local finance office to request a new PIN in person.



# Football fans thank purple heart recipients

By Sgt. Lorie Jewell  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Just a month ago, a rocket-propelled grenade blew through Sgt. Orlando Gill's right leg as he stood outside his vehicle during a patrol in Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

Gill, 31, sat in a wheelchair on the 50-yard line at FedEx Field Oct. 31, flanked by two other injured Operation Iraqi Freedom Soldiers — Spc. Rosetta Floyd and Cpl. Norman Jones — taking in thunderous cheers and applause from thousands of football fans.

The Soldiers received lifetime memberships into the Military Order of the Purple Heart during a half-time ceremony at the Washington Redskins home game against the Green Bay Packers. From the stands, an impromptu, unified chant of "U.S.A, U.S.A" struck an emotional chord with the Soldiers.

"I got choked up," Gill admitted. "With all those people cheering, it was a great feeling."

Gill, of Battery A, 2nd Battalion, 17th Field Artillery out of Korea, was on his second OIF tour when the RPG ripped his leg Oct. 2 and exploded on the street behind him, forcing an above-the-knee amputation. Seeing thousands of football fans on their feet, applauding and cheering for the Soldiers, took Gill by surprise.

"It just shows that while a lot of people might oppose what's going on, they support the Soldiers," he said.

Floyd, a 28-year-old medic from Fort Hood, Texas, was attached to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry of the 1st Cavalry Division, when she was injured Aug. 25. Taking a break in a Sadr City compound, Floyd — a single mother to five children — was chatting with a friend about their children when a mortar round surprised them, impacting about five feet away. Her friend was killed instantly; Floyd was left with shrapnel wounds all



Photo by Sgt. Lorie Jewell

Thousands of fans were on their feet, cheering as lifetime memberships in the Military Order of the Purple Heart were presented to three injured Soldiers during a half-time ceremony at the Oct. 29 football game between the Washington Redskins and the Green Bay Packers.

over her body and an injury to her right leg that still requires her to use a wheelchair.

"It's a wonderful feeling, seeing that these people do care about us," Floyd said of the crowd's reaction. "They don't want us getting hurt. And I think that showing that females are getting injured, too, really touched them."

Floyd's mother, Quilla French, and Walter Reed Army Medical Center personnel Capt. Alexander Aristizabal and Master Sgt. Carlos Borges accompanied the Sol-

diers to the game. The Army's Operation Tribute to Freedom, an outreach program that supports recognition of Soldiers, assisted with coordinating the Soldiers' participation.

The injured Soldiers were presented with plaques by Military Order of the Purple Heart officials Richard Gallant, executive director; Grant Acker, national legislative director; and Ransom Jordan Jr., national sergeant-at-arms.

The organization has inducted roughly 300 service members with lifetime member-

ships, some presented at public events like the Redskins game and others at hospitals like Walter Reed and Bethesda, Gallant said.

"We're going to be doing a lot more," Gallant added.

The appreciation flowed off the field as well.

Everywhere the Soldiers went — from the Redskins tailgate party to their seats in the stands — fans, referees, players and team officials stopped to shake their hands and thank them for their service.

## Multi-target raid in Baghdad detains 13 suspects

By Cpl. Bill Putnam  
122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

AL RASHID DISTRICT, Baghdad — In a multi-target raid, cavalry troopers from 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry, effectively dismantled an Anti-Iraqi Force cell operating in Al Rashid's Furat neighborhood during the early morning hours Oct. 22.

They're all in the same neighborhood, so we decided to hit them at the same time," said Capt. Dan Mark, commander of Blackhawk Troop, 1st Squad, 7th Cav. before the raid.

Three of the squadron's cavalry troops and the squadron command team simultaneously hit the targets' homes, Mark said.

They detained 13 suspected insurgents after waking many of them up. Nine of the malcontents were taken

from one house, he added.

Mark said each unit involved hit different targets throughout the area.

Headquarters Troop, 1st Squad, 7th Cav. Regt. hit one set of targets, two brothers who acted as the "trigger pullers" of the cell.

Comanche Troop hit an improvised explosive device maker and planter. Blackhawk Troop's target was the cell's mortar man.

The squadron command team hit the cell's financier and organizer. After driving through a dust storm to reach their target, Blackhawk hit their target house quickly. It turned out the large target house had been divided into a quadriplex of small flats.

The troop went through them all and some of the surrounding homes asking people if they knew the targeted individual. None did. Many of the neighbors said they'd just moved into the area last year, and they didn't know

the man or his family.

Spc. Brice Vanover, a cavalry scout with Blackhawk Troop, manned a Humvee blocking position during the raid. "I think it went well," Vanover said. "We completed the mission without too much hassle."

The only real hassle the troop had during the raid was seeing small-arms tracer rounds off in the distance and then, ominously, the street and house lights all around them went out.

Probably all it was just a fluke," Vanover said. "But you have to be conscious that it might not be."

Even though his troop didn't uncover the rebel suspect they were searching for, Mark considers the mission a success, as 13 suspects were taken into custody.

"Just because we didn't get our guy doesn't mean the mission wasn't a success," he said. "The bottom line is as long as they're not out there shooting at us or killing innocent Iraqis, that's the bigger goal here."



# Going for long-term solution in Afghanistan

By Col. Randy Pullen  
*Army News Service*

KABUL, Afghanistan — “You keep hitting the home runs.” When U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Craig P. Weston made the remark in October, he was not complimenting either team in the World Series back home.

Instead, he was speaking to the team of the Office of Military Cooperation – Afghanistan about its achievements in the last couple of months.

Weston, chief of OMC-A, is in charge of military personnel from both the active and reserve components of the U.S. Armed Forces, military personnel from the United Kingdom, Germany, France and Romania, and civilian contractors, who along with the government of Afghanistan and the international community, is responsible for the reconstruction of the Afghan Security and Defense sectors in order to deliver a stable Afghanistan that deters and defeats terrorism within its borders.

OMC-A’s mission entails everything from recruiting soldiers to training the recruiters, from organizing the Ministry of Defense to mentoring its senior leaders and the general staff, from obtaining weapons, uniforms, and equipment to developing the policies and processes needed by a modern army to establish its own acquisition system, its own per-

sonnel system and all the other systems required to make a working military infrastructure.

During his visit, Weston praised OMC-A members on their recent accomplishments and informed them on the challenges that lie ahead.

Weston said that, for the most part, they cannot just do what needs to be done. They must help, assist, guide and mentor but must “lead from the rear” the Afghans in doing the myriad of tasks that have to be accomplished to build an entire national defense structure.

OMC-A has completed numerous taskings in the past 60 days, including helping to stand up four Afghan National army regional commands in September. The commands, each commanded by an ANA major general, were stood up in Kandahar Sept. 19, Gardez Sept. 22, Mazar-e-Sharif Sept. 26 and Heart Sept. 28.

“Standing up these commands was a major, major milestone,” Weston said. “This was a very large political milestone and very symbolic milestone. It stood up their army in all four corners of the country.”

Each of these commands has a permanent staff and a garrison, Weston explained. Although only activated for a short time, they are already getting traction.

The commanders are sitting on local security councils in their regions and played important roles in providing local election secu-

rity, he said.

As important as the regional command activations were, they were but a prelude for what Weston termed “the biggest milestone in our time and for the Afghans in 5,000 years,” — Afghanistan’s first free presidential election held Oct. 9.

You can take great pride in what you did to make this election possible,” Weston told the members of OMC-A. “You helped build the small army that was all over this country. Their presence made a big difference. There were no huge terrorist incidents, in large part because the Afghan National Army was out there, an army that you helped build and nurture,” he continued.

Weston said that there had been a turn-about in the media stories about the election, changing from reporting on the ink-coming-off-voter-thumbs problem to reporting on what a major achievement this had been for the Afghan people.

The election has been a huge victory for the Afghan people, Weston said. They have elected to take the high road that leads to a bright future for their country.

“This was a victory that you helped make possible,” the OMC-A chief said. “You made a difference in building this army. You can take that with you for the rest of your life, that you were here on Afghan’s Election Day and that you helped build the army that made it possible.”



Photo by Col. Randy Pullen

**Air Force Maj. Gen. Craig P. Weston, chief of the Office of Military Cooperation Afghanistan discusses past accomplishments and the way ahead at the October OMC-A Commander's Call.**

## Marines provide medical assistance for Iraqi children

By Lance Cpl. Sarah A. Beavers  
*24th Marine Expedition Unit*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq — The future of Iraq rests in the hearts and minds of its children. With that idea in mind, the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit has begun delivering supplies to its local schools.

However, during these visits, they began to notice a problem bigger than missing chalkboards and broken desks — the children’s health.

As the ailments of the local population were brought to their attention, the Marines and sailors of MEU Service Support Group 24 stepped up to the task of providing basic medical care.

“A lot of children at the school were sick or injured,” said 1st Lt. Keith Dillard, 31, a Mount Vernon, N.Y., native and a logistics officer with MSSG-24. “When we were delivering school supplies, the headmaster would ask us if there was anything we could do (to help them. Now), wherever we go, we have two corpsmen available to see the students or [people in the] community.”

During a recent check-up, they discovered a boy who



Photo by Lance Cpl. Sarah A. Beavers

**Petty Officer 3rd Class Nathan Silvers of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit examines and Iraqi student's throat as he provides basic medical care.**

had fallen victim to local terrorist activities.

“One child I saw only had two fingers left on his hand [due to] an [improvised explosive device] he found,” said Seaman Jere Coughlin, 26, a corpsman with MSSG-24. “The wound had already healed, so I gave him [a] bandage ... he likes to keep it covered.”

Transforming a schoolroom into a mini-clinic, the corpsmen addressed many illnesses, including respiratory problems, abdominal pain and sore throats. They were able to assess the severity of someone’s condition within minutes.

“During sickcall, I’ve had [more than] 60 people in line to see me,” added Coughlin. “I had to [evaluate everyone to find] the 10 legitimate patients, and provide them some relief.”

The primary goal for the Marines and sailors involved in this effort is for the local Iraqi people to understand that they truly care about their well-being.

“This isn’t just a project,” said Dillard. “As we do more, we hope they see that we care. We take a [genuine] interest in (wanting to) help them.”

The MEU also donated more than \$5,000 worth of medical supplies — such as bandages, medications and blood-pressure cuffs — to a local medical clinic, enabling them to provide better care for the members of their community.

“The Iraqi doctors and nurses will now have more capabilities for treating the common cold to [performing] more [complicated] procedures,” said Chief Petty Officer Christopher Hill, 37, a Yukon, Okla., native and medical chief for MSSG-24.



# Force protection at work on LSA Anaconda with local guards



By Pvt. Chelsea Mack  
81st BCT Public Affairs

U.S. Soldiers work hand-in-hand with Iraqi National Guard soldiers to maintain security at LSA Anaconda's gates.

Soldiers of the 181st Support Battalion man the entry control points and depend on their relationship with the ING to conduct operations smoothly. The guards conduct security inspections and verify each visitor has proper identification and passes to enter the installation.

"Mainly they (ING soldiers) are here to search local national personnel," said Spc. Shane Huffaker, while on duty.

ING soldiers became an asset by working closely with service members who are unfamiliar with the local culture and language.

"They (ING) do a lot of translation for us," said Staff Sgt. Tony Haynesworth, a sergeant of the guard at the South Gate. "Some can speak very good English."

"The ING help us solve problems when dealing with the locals," said Pfc. Solomon Mayfield. "When we have a dispute with civilians, we bring the ING with us. Some of them even speak Turkish, so they help us with the third country national truck drivers."

While Iraqi soldiers learn skills from the U.S. Soldiers, the Americans have been exposed to a different culture learning social customs and greetings.

"I have a lot of interaction with the ING," Huffaker said. "I've learned a lot of Arabic and even some songs."

These collaborating forces help to put the building blocks of the future in place each day they serve in Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Sgt. Corey Howard, 181st Spt. Bn. inspects a local national employee's identification as the man passes through one of several check points, along with other civilians seeking access to the installation.



An Iraqi National Guard searches a local national man at a check point. All individuals who seek access to LSA Anaconda must pass through each check point.

Staff Sgt. William Seipp, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 181st Support Battalion, checks identification and installation passes at the camp's control entry point.



Photo manipulation by Sgt. Annette B. Andrews

An Iraqi National Guard translates for Sgt. 1st Class Theresa Farmer, Company A, 181st Spt. Bn., while on duty.



Spc. Paul Norwood, HHC, 181st Spt. Bn., checks a local national's identification a few minutes after sunrise. Force protection is a 24-hour job and LSA Anaconda's security forces remain vigilant.



Iraqi National Guards allow an armored Humvee through an inspection point on LSA Anaconda.

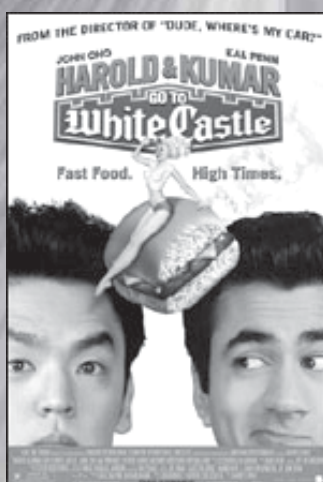


Movie Schedule

# Sustainer Reel Time Theater

Daily Shows: 3 p.m., 6 p.m., and 9 p.m.  
(schedule is subject to change)

<b>Nov. 7</b>	
3 p.m.	Cookout
7 p.m.	Russ Lee Concert
9 p.m.	Surviving Christmas
<b>Nov. 8</b>	
3 p.m.	Superbabies: Baby Geniuses
6 p.m.	I, Robot
9 p.m.	Anacondas
<b>Nov. 9</b>	
3 p.m.	Harold and Kumar
6 p.m.	Surviving Christmas
9 p.m.	Exorcist
<b>Nov. 10</b>	
3 p.m.	Black Cloud
6 p.m.	Dodgeball
9 p.m.	Superbabies: Baby Geniuses
<b>Nov. 11</b>	
3 p.m.	Hero
6 p.m.	Surviving Christmas
9 p.m.	Man on Fire
<b>Nov. 12</b>	
3 p.m.	Chronicles of Riddick
6 p.m.	Hero
9 p.m.	Van Helsing
<b>Nov. 13</b>	
3 p.m.	Wimbledon
6 p.m.	Breaking All the Rules
9 p.m.	Hidalgo



Harold and Kumar



Man on Fire

## Weekly Religious Schedule

### Roman Catholic Mass

Saturday 7 p.m. Eden Chapel (bldg. 4148)  
Sunday 8:30 a.m. 185th Task Force Tent  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel  
Sunday 11 a.m. Anaconda Provider Chapel  
Monday 9 a.m. PPI Dining Facility  
Monday 9 p.m. PPI Dining Facility  
Friday 6:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
Friday 6 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

### Church of Christ

Sunday 11 a.m. 1/142nd Chapel Tent

### Christian Orthodox

Saturday 7 p.m. 185th Task Force Tent  
Sunday 11 a.m. 185th Task Force Tent

### Protestant-Gospel

Sunday 11 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater  
Sunday 7 p.m. Eden Chapel (bldg. 4148)

### Lutheran

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Cherokee Chapel (bldg. 4002)  
Sunday 2 p.m. 185th Task Force Tent

### Protestant-Contemporary

Sunday 7 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater  
Sunday 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel

### Protestant-Traditional

Sunday 9 a.m. Eden Chapel (bldg. 4148)  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Anaconda Provider Chapel  
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel  
Sunday 11 a.m. Eden Chapel (bldg. 4148)  
Sunday 11 a.m. 185th Aviation Group Chapel

### Protestant-Praise and Worship

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sustainer Indoor Theater  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. 185th Task Force Tent  
Sunday 5:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

### Islamic Prayer

Friday 1:30 p.m. Anaconda Provider Chapel

### Latter Day Saints

Sunday 1 p.m. Anaconda Provider Chapel  
Sunday 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

### Jewish Prayer

Friday 6:30 p.m. Eden Chapel (bldg. 4148)

## Movie Synopsis for Nov. 7 – 13

### Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle

R, Comedy, 88 min  
John Cho, Kal Penn, Paula Garcés

Directed by Danny Leiner, *Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle* follows the life-changing (and mind-altering) journey of Korean investment banker Harold (John Cho) and American medical-school candidate Kumar (Kal Penn). Both underdogs, Harold and Kumar decide to spend what would have been an otherwise uneventful Friday night satisfying an oddly intense urge for White Castle hamburgers. However, finding a suitable White Castle proves a highly difficult task, and the two friends wind up on an epic road trip of deep thoughts, deeper inhaling, and enough half-baked, politically incorrect philosophizing to outweigh a White Castle value meal.

### Man on Fire

R, Action, 110 min  
Denzel Washington, Dakota Fanning

A wave of kidnappings has swept through Mexico, feeding a growing sense of panic among its wealthier citizens. In one six-day period, there were twenty-four abductions. Into this world enters John Creasy, a burned-out ex-CIA operative/assassin, who has given up on life. Creasy's friend Rayburn brings him to Mexico City to be a bodyguard to nine-year-old Pita Ramos. Creasy is not interested in being a bodyguard, especially to a youngster, but for lack of something better to do, he accepts the assignment. Creasy barely tolerates the precocious child and her pestering questions about him and his life. But slowly, she chips away at his seemingly impenetrable exterior, and he opens up to her. Creasy's new-found purpose in life is shattered when Pita is kidnapped. Despite being mortally wounded during the kidnapping, he vows to kill anyone involved in or profiting from the kidnapping. And no one can stop him.

### Exorcist: The Beginning

R, Horror, 114 min  
Stellan Skarsgård, Izabella Scorupco, Gabriel Mann

Planned for years, but plagued by problems such as the death of director John Frankenheimer before production had even begun and the exiting of star Liam Neeson, the fourth installment of the *Exorcist* saga finally got off the ground with Paul Schrader (*Affliction*, *Auto Focus*) behind the camera and Stellan Skarsgård filling the shoes left empty by Neeson. The first prequel in the series, *Exorcist: The Beginning* is based upon events featured as flashbacks in 1977's *Exorcist II: The Heretic*. Playing the character made famous by Max von Sydow in the earlier films, this entry finds Skarsgård as a young Father Merrin facing true evil for the first time while doing missionary work in Africa in the wake of World War II. When a young local boy begins to behave strangely, it becomes more and more apparent to Merrin that the child is a victim of demonic possession. *Exorcist: The Beginning* features a supporting cast headed by James D'Arcy (*Master And Commander*) and European pop-star Billy Crawford in his first big-screen acting role.

### The Cookout

PG-13, Comedy, 88 min  
Storm P., Ja Rule, Tim Meadows

When Todd Anderson is chosen as the #1 NBA draft pick by the New Jersey Nets, he signs a contract for thirty million dollars that instantly changes his life. Whether he likes it or not his mom, Lady Em, is not going to let her son forget his roots. When Todd buys a new house and mistakenly invites family from the old neighborhood for a cookout on the same day he scheduled an endorsement interview, chaos erupts and Todd must choose between his down home roots and his newfound celebrity.



# Soldiers distribute backpacks to children

By Spc. Steven J. Schneider  
Staff writer

Nearly 1,000 back packs loaded with school supplies were distributed to children at Bakr Village just outside LSA Anaconda Nov. 1.

The 13th Corps Support Command Civil Affairs mission was the largest they've done, and had about 40 Soldiers, ranging anywhere from private to colonel.

Members of the 13th COSCOM staff, Special Troops Battalion, Corps Distribution Command, 84th Engineer Battalion and 81st Brigade Combat Team helped with the distribution.

"I'd like to believe this lets them (the children) know we care about their mental welfare as well as their physical welfare," said Sgt. Draughn Ryal, 81st Brigade Combat Team Soldier, who went on his first school supply mission.

Many of the children could hardly hold back their excitement when Soldiers entered the classrooms, hoping to shake hands or talk with an American.

Ryal said he had a lump in his throat handing out bags.

"These kids have so little, and they get so excited about these small backpacks," he said.

Ryal said this changed his perspective from a negative to a positive view of the Iraqi people. A sentiment shared by others.

"I had become cold and frustrated toward the Iraqi people," said Spc. Jose Zayas, 13th COSCOM, Special Troops Battalion. "This brought the softer side of me out. I saw the children and the people today, and these people want our help, and we're going to give it to them."

The school supplies included pens, pencils, notebook paper and other common materials Americans often take



Photos by Spc. Steven J. Schneider

**Sgt. Maj. Maureen Janke, 13th Corps Support Command G-3 sergeant major, looks on as children in a classroom admire the backpacks.**

for granted. Some bags had toys or candy in them. This was only one of many school supply missions done in the area.

Civil Affairs ran 13 school distributions in October. Operation Anaconda Neighborhood distributed school supplies to more than 3,800 students during the month of October.

This is just part of the \$4.2 million in infrastructure improvements 13th COSCOM has made since January.



**Staff Sgt. Lupe Garcia, 13th COSCOM, talks with some of the children at the school.**

**Local children check out the school supplies they found in their backpacks.**



# Blowing barriers to bits tests post safety measures



Photos by Pfc. Abel Trevino

An explosion by the 716th Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit simulated the direct hit of a 127 mm rocket during the quality testing of Texas barriers at the burn pit Nov. 1.

By Pfc. Abel Trevino  
Staff writer

The 716th Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit tested the quality of Texas barriers used for the protection of various facilities Nov. 1.

"We had suspicions about the quality [of some barriers], so we decided to test them," said 1st Lt. Justin R. Clack, 81st Brigade Combat Team force protection. "[The post] gets barriers from several different sources, so we grabbed a sample from each of them."

Five barriers were set up in the burn pit and detonated with a force to simulate a direct blast from a 127 mm rocket, said Staff Sgt. Dustin Rolfe, 716th EOD, NCOIC of the detonation.

After the explosion, Soldiers from the 81st BCT and the 716th EOD surveyed the damage to assess if the barriers were functional in protecting the lives of those stationed here.

One barrier was left standing and another took damage well, Clack said.

"It looks really bad, but each [of the barriers] would have done their job and stopped any shrapnel," Clack said.

The actual usage of barriers is to protect from shrapnel and not direct hits. The placement of the explosive charges, directly on the barriers, mimicked what effect a direct hit would have on the barriers at a low angle, Clack said.

Two of the barriers performed above expectations,

withstanding the blast, while three did not withstand the blast, Clack said.

"It looks really bad, but each would have done their job and stopped shrapnel," Clack said.

The morning's events were the first time any explosive detonation measures had been used to test the quality and effectiveness of the barriers.

Clack said the results were better than he had anticipated.



Five Texas barriers were loaded with charges prior to detonation. Two of the barriers withstood the blasts and three crumbled. The detonation allowed the 81st Brigade Combat Team and 716th Explosive Ordnance Disposal to test the quality of the Texas barriers.



Charges were planted directly on the base of the barriers to simulate a direct hit from a rocket.



Staff Sgt. Dustin Rolfe, 716th Explosives Ordnance Disposal unit blast NCOIC, and Pfc. Eric Raska, 716th EOD, set up detonation cord to ignite the explosives.



# Soldiers run for breast cancer research

By Sgt. Ann Venturato  
Assistant editor

About 15 Soldiers here participated in their own Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Race for the Cure in Iraq Oct. 31.

The service members either ran or walked the 5K (3.1 miles) around the track at the stadium to show their support for breast cancer research.

Staff Sgt. Lupe Garcia, a plans NCO, 13th Corps Support Command, was the local spokesperson for the race. Garcia said she has participated in previous races for breast cancer research and wanted to help out this year even though she is deployed.

Garcia was contacted by the Austin group to register for the race and coordinated it here. She collected the registrations and fee for the race for each Soldier and sent them into the race committee and once the T-shirts arrived the group met at the track to put in their miles.

"The main thing is to raise a little money for breast cancer research," Garcia said.

"It is important to find a cure for breast cancer because it kills so many women every year."

Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer found in women in the United States and the leading cause of death among women between 40 and 59 years old. Early detection is the key to survival.

A few of the Soldiers, like Maj. Deb Kotulich, G-3 Plans 13th COSCOM, have lost a loved one to breast cancer.

"Since about 1999, I have been involved personally with the race for the cure," Kotulich said. "I am happy to be able to support it from here via the Austin group. It is a real important effort to bring attention to breast cancer and the struggle that women face."

Kotulich said that being able to support the race gave the Soldiers a chance to be a part of something back in the states as well as providing a way to make it through one more day of being deployed.

The service members joined the 1.5 million people who are expected to participate in one of more than 100 race events as part of the Komen's Foundation's Race for the Cure® Series, which is run in communities across America.



Photos by Sgt. Ann Venturato

About 15 Soldiers got together to help support breast cancer research by participating in their own race for the cure by running or walking around the track at the stadium Oct. 31.



The participants pose for a photo in the bleachers before running around the track.

## Question of the Week

# What is the hardest redeployment preparation?



**Staff Sgt. Adam Askelson**  
185th Armor

"The hardest redeployment preparation is getting the tanks together with all the necessary [basic issue items] and conducting maintenance."



**Master Sgt. Gerald Knight**  
104th Division Task Force

"The hardest redeployment preparation is getting to Anaconda [from Forward Operating Base Caldwell] and figuring out the process."



**Sgt. Maj. Robert Parr**  
Multi-National Corps-Iraq

"The hardest preparation for redeployment is figuring out what to ship home and what to carry with you."



**Spc. Joshua Bostic**  
299th Forward Support Battalion

"The hardest redeployment preparation is getting accountability of all the equipment that you came down here with."



**Spc. Stephen Turner**  
21st Replacement Company

"The hardest redeployment preparation is getting a flight to Kuwait."



# MWR Complex Schedule

## Dominos

Come to the MWR tent for a exciting domino tournaments today, 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday.

## Pool

8-ball tournaments will be held at 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tuesday. 9-ball tournaments will be held 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Thursday.

## Spades

Spades tournaments are scheduled for 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. today.

## Table Tennis

Table Tennis tournaments will be held 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wednesday.

## Music

The MWR Sport Lounge features different types of music each night Monday through Saturday 8 p.m. to midnight.

Mondays -- Jazz and old school

Tuesdays -- Rock

Wednesdays -- Country

Thursdays -- Tejano and Hispanic

Fridays -- R&B

Saturdays -- Salsa and Latino

# LSA Anaconda Fitness Center

## Judo

The LSA Anaconda Fitness Center offers Judo classes at 8:30 p.m. today, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday.

## Aerobics

There will be an aerobics class Monday through Saturday at 6 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

## Karate

Karate classes will be held Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

## Capoeira

Capoeira is scheduled for 6 p.m. every Sunday and Thursday and 7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays.

## Basketball

The Fitness Center will host basketball league play tonight, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## Spades tournament

If you like to play cards today's spades tournaments at the MWR facility might be the place for you. Just show up at 2 p.m. or 8 p.m. for a good match.

## 8-Ball Tournament

Just Show up and prove you're the best at LSA Anaconda.

When: Tuesday, 8 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Where: MWR



## Rock the Night Away

*If you like bands like Pearl Jam, Nirvana and Alice in Chains, join other fans of Alternative Rock Tuesday nights, 8 p.m. to midnight at the MWR Lounge. Let DJ Cobra take you to the next level of rock.*



## Russ Lee performs

*Christian artist, Russ Lee, will be at the Sustainer Indoor Theater tonight, 7 p.m.*





# Clash with undefeated Titans one-sided



The Law's second-half quarterback Thomas Relation is sacked while looking for a receiver down field.



The Titans' ran a trick play to perfection as wide receiver Harvey Carmichael throws for a touchdown, giving the Titans a 28-6 lead.

By Spc. Steven J. Schneider  
*Staff writer*

The domination was evident again in the 4th Corps Materiel Management Center Titans thrashing of the 362nd Military Police Detachment The Law 37-6 in flag football play Oct. 31.

The Titans moved to 6-0 in the regular season as they overmatched The Law.

"You'll never meet a top flight team like us," said Titans' quarterback Ken Sims.

The Titans' athletes have reason to be cocky after winning both the Anaconda preseason tournament and last year's flag football championship while sta-

tioned at Fort Hood, Texas.

The Law's (4-2) hearts were broken when their meager offense and confused defense allowed the Titans to jump out to an early 16-0 lead.

The only thing that could stop the bleeding was a red alert.

"We've won every game this year by slaughter law, and today looks to bet more of the same," Titans' Sims said during the alert.

Slaughter law is when a team leads by 30 or more with 10 minutes left or more than 18 with two minutes left in the game.

But the Titans came out flat when the all clear sounded. Sims threw an interception to go along with his two touchdown passes, and for first time in the game, The Law not only picked up a first down but found their way into the end zone when wide receiver Terence Cook made a circus catch and stumbled for a score just before the half.

At halftime, the score was 16-6, and it seemed like The Law might have gained some momentum, but seconds into the second half, an interception deflated their hopes again. Sims quickly turned the turnover into another touchdown pass, and the Titans took a 22-6.

On the next set of downs, The Law picked up their second and final first down of the day before turning the ball over on downs again.

The Law felt a couple of calls hurt them.

The needed a few more calls after a 3-point conversion made the score 31-6.

"We probably should have stuck together," said Thomas Relation, who came in to play quarterback for The Law in the second half. "We had too much talk and not enough play."

Shortly after the Titans added another touchdown, the game was called to show mercy for the overmatched MPs.

"They get in your head," Relation said.

The Titans are just looking for some competition.

"We challenge anybody on Anaconda," said Titans' running back Jerry Wood.



Photos by Spc. Stephen J. Schneider

Titans' quarterback Ken Sims avoids tacklers in the beginning of his teams 37-6 flag football route of The Law Oct. 31. The 4th Corps Materiel Management Center Titans are undefeated in league play flag football.

## Army bull rider takes world title in Las Vegas

*Army News Service*

The Army celebrated its first Professional Bull Riding title as 21-year-old Mike Lee clinched the Built Ford Tough Series World Championship Oct. 31 at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas.

Lee set a record by winning both the PBR World Championship title and the Built Ford Tough World Finals Championship, awarded to the bull rider who scored the most points in the seven-day competition.

"I'm so proud to bring home the championship not only for my family and me, but for all of the Soldiers

protecting our freedom around the world," Lee said. "I am blessed with a great group of supporters, and even though I am the only one out there on the back of that bull, I could not have come out with the title without this team behind me."

Wearing the signature black and gold colors of the U.S. Army, Lee conquered Geronimo in the seventh round to seal his third consecutive win and boost his overall standings in the BFTS.

Lee then met Mossy Oak Mudslinger in the short round and held on for a full eight seconds to earn a total of 12,138.24 points for the year and clinch the BFTS World Championship.

"We could not be more proud of Mike for this tremendous accomplishment in the first year of the Army's relationship with PBR," said Col. Thomas Nickerson, director of Strategic Outreach for U.S. Army Accessions Command. "One of the reasons we support Mike and the other Army bull riders, Jaron Nunnemaker and James White, is because they and all bull riders have the same qualities we look for in Soldiers. Together they illustrate how experience, training and a clear vision of goals can make you stronger now and in the future."

(Editor's note: Information provided by a U.S. Army Accessions Command news release.)



# Soaring into danger



1st Lt. Paige Shoun, Company A, 1st Battalion, 244th Aviation, adjusts her night vision goggles in the UH-60 Black Hawk she is co-piloting with Murphy.



Chief Warrant Officer Michelle Murphy, Co. A, 1st Bn., 244th Avn., grabs her flight log.

By Pfc. Abel Trevino  
Staff writer

A Soldier is a Soldier, and war knows no gender bias when it comes to those, on the ground or in the air, supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"People end up noticing [females] more," Spc. Jenna Hill, flight crew chief for Company C, 1st Battalion, 244th Aviation, said.

"[We] have to really know [our] job a little bit better and know how to present ourselves."

Three Soldiers from the 1st Bn., 244th Avn. are changing the way aviation units view female pilots and crew chiefs one mission at a time.

"[Females] have to prove themselves a lot more than a man does," said Chief Warrant Officer Michelle Murphy, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot with Company A.

Murphy is no stranger to having to prove herself in male-dominated careers. She began piloting 12 years ago and, at home in Baton Rouge, La. she is also a police officer.

"When a female first comes to a unit, she has to prove herself. There are a lot of questions and concerns [about abilities]. Once she has proved herself, she's accepted as a peer," Murphy said. "It's

not that bad now. I don't think there's anybody that wouldn't want to fly with any of us."

Chief Warrant Officer Wayne Griffin, UH-60 Black Hawk pilot with Co. A, said in His opinion, Murphy was a good

pilot who was competent and he was comfortable flying with her.

Despite the feeling of having to demonstrate their abilities more often, the female aviators face the same dangers as male pilots.

"As far as flying, other than the threat itself of

the war environment that we're all in, we also have [power and telephone] wires we have to be aware of [when flying], engine problems and other types of maintenance problems and the aircraft itself," Murphy said about common problems all pilots face here.

This means having to put in additional maintenance hours to ensure the aircrafts safety.

"We don't get to walk away from the aircraft at the end of the day," Hill said. "Everybody over here stays mission focused. If that means we have to stay out here several hours after the flights are over, that is what has to happen."

Their dedication to doing the job well is a fulfilling feeling.

"It's a good source of pride whenever you look back at the previous day or week and say 'I am really tired, but the mission has gone forward and has been successful,'" Hill said.

The work schedule is long and requires an attention to detail, but they enjoy their jobs and think they are the best jobs in the Army.

"I try to have a good time in everything I'm doing," said 1st Lt. Paige Shoun, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot with Co. A. "It's hard to have a bad flight. Even if I have a bad flight, it's still better than not flying."

Shoun thinks female pilots and their contributions as role models are not just for women, but their examples can benefit anyone.

"I think [it shows] anyone who wants to fly that they can do it," Shoun said. "If there is something they ever thought about doing, [they ought] to give it a shot."

Aviation units are on the forefront of combat, flying in and out of dangerous situations each day.

Those who face the dangers are no longer just men, they include women as well as these pilots prove everyday.



Murphy adjusts controls as she prepares to land. The crew of UH-60 Black Hawks use night vision goggles to maneuver in the dark.



Shoun hooks the blade of a UH-60 Black Hawk to a cable to tie it down for the night. The pilots and crew work with the aircraft long after flights to ensure their safety for the next day.